

NOVELTIES FROM THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

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*LANTANA HATOËNSIS* Mold., sp. nov.

Frutex, ramis ramulisque gracilibus griseis, junioribus dense breviterque pubescentibus, pilis brunneis divergentibus laxis; foliis decussato-oppositis numerosis caducis; petiolis pergracillimis 5--10 mm. longis dense pilosis; laminis foliorum tenuiter membranaceis ovatis vel ovato-ellipticis 2--5 cm. longis, 1.5--4 cm. latis, supra plusminus rugulosis asperulisque, subtus dense pubescentibus, inflorescentiis axillaribus capitatis paucifloris; bracteis lanceolato-ovatis involucrentibus; corollis albis; fructibus drupaceis rotundis purpureo-rubellis nigrescentibus.

A small shrub or subshrub, to 1.5 m. tall; branches and branchlets slender, slightly tetragonal, eventually glabrous, grayish; young branchlets and twigs densely short-pubescent, the hairs divergent and brownish; leaves decussate-opposite, numerous, quickly falling; petioles very slender, 5--10 mm. long, densely pubescent; leaf-blades thin-membranous, ovate or ovate-elliptic, 2--5 cm. long, 1.5--4 cm. wide, apically mostly acute, marginally crenulate, basally cuneately narrowed into the petiole, more or less rugulose and asperulous above, densely pubescent with rather appressed brownish hairs beneath; vein and veinlet reticulation impressed above, prominent beneath; inflorescence axillary, capitate, the peduncles equaling or surpassing the subtending leaves, puberulent; bracts ovate or lanceolate, apically acute, involucrent; corolla white, sometimes with a slight pinkish tinge or lavender-pink spots; fruit drupaceous, fleshy when fresh, pinkish-purple, blackening in drying.

This species based on *John de Freitas 13*, collected west of Hato cave in the vegetation strip along the edge of the highest limestone terrace on which the cave is situated, in Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, on January 24, 1985, and is deposited in the Lundell Herbarium at the University of Texas. The species is obviously very closely related to *L. arubensis* Mold.

*LANTANA HATOËNSIS* f. *RUBELLA* Mold., f. nov

Haec forma a forma typica speciei corollis purpureo-rubellis differt.

This form differs from the typical form of the species in having pinkish-lavender corollas.

The form is based on *Freitas 12* from west of Hato cave, Curaçao, in the vegetation strip along the vertical edge of the highest limestone terrace, collected on January 24, 1985, and deposited in the Lundell Herbarium at the University of Texas.